

**Weekly Status & Information Report:  
Week of May 5 - May 9, 2008**

**1. Tomorrow! Recycling Event!:** The City's annual electronics recycling event will take place this Saturday, May 10 in the parking lot behind the Library. We will be accepting all computer components, non-console TVs, radios, stereos and small electronic equipment. Please come between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. The event will end at 2:00 p.m. and the last half hour will be devoted to cleaning up the site. *(Public Works)*

**2. First Time Home Buyer Class (Spanish) - May 10, 2008:** A First Time Home Buyer class that will be conducted in Spanish will be held this Saturday, May 10 from 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. at the Takoma Park Community Center, 7500 Maple Avenue. If you plan on becoming a homeowner in the next year or so, now is the time to learn how to be a "smart buyer." Those attending this free class will receive a certificate of completion that can be used when applying for low interest loans that are available through the county and the state. *(Housing and Community Development)*

**3. Foreclosure Prevention Class - May 14, 2008:** If you are feeling the pressure of a mortgage that will be readjusting within the next year, now is the time to check out the new refinancing programs that are being offered by the State of Maryland. On Wednesday, May 14, from 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. at the Takoma Park Community Center, 7500 Maple Avenue, a class will be held to bring you up to date on these programs as well as help new homeowners stay out of financial trouble. Those interested in attending can call (301) 891-7222 to register or e-mail [LindaW@takomagov.org](mailto:LindaW@takomagov.org) *(Housing and Community Development)*

**4. Renters' Tax Credit Program Applications Available:** Are you a renter with a fixed income? You may be eligible to receive a tax credit by filing an application with the Maryland Department of Assessment and Taxation. Eligibility for the 2008 Maryland Renters' Tax Credit Program is based on your household income and the amount of your rent. For example, if you are 60 years or older and have a gross income of \$25,000 or less and have a rent that is higher than \$795, you may qualify to receive a credit. Applications can be obtained by calling (301) 891-7222 or accessing the state's website at [www.dat.state.md.us](http://www.dat.state.md.us). The deadline for filing an application is September 1, 2008. *(Housing and Community Development)*

**5. New Hampshire Avenue Corridor Community Gardens and Greening Project Update (Wards 2, 3 and 6):** HCD staff have received and are presently finalizing its review of two formal applications for the New Hampshire Avenue Community Gardening and Greening Project. One application was from the Zion Lutheran Church, the other from the Hillwood Manor Neighborhood Association's Garden Committee. *(Housing and Community Development)*

**6. The Bathroom Poet Project (City-wide):** Thursday, May 9, kicked off the Arts and Humanities Commission's Bathroom Poetry Project with a poetry reading held in the women's bathroom at the library. If you or someone you know would like to submit their original work to be considered for inclusion in the project, please e-mail your poems to the [bathroompoet@hotmail.com](mailto:bathroompoet@hotmail.com). If you own a business in Takoma Park and your restrooms are open to the public, please let us know if you would be interested in having one of the selected poems posted at your establishment. *(Housing and Community Development)*

7. **"Third Thursday" Poetry Reading - May 15:** The work of poets Joe Hall and Nomi Stone will be featured at this month's poetry reading on Thursday, May 15 at 7 p.m. in the Azalea Room at the Takoma Park Community Center. The popular series is sponsored by the Takoma Park Arts and Humanities Commission in partnership with Poet Laureate emeritus Don Berger. The event is free and open to the public. (*Housing and Community Development*)

8. **Reforma Workshop:** Camila Alire, President-elect of the American Library Association, was the keynote speaker at a recent event organized by Library Assistant Lucia Acin Andion and other members of the Washington, D.C. chapter of Reforma, the National Association to Promote Library and Information Services to Latinos and the Spanish Speaking. About 70 librarians from all over Maryland, including Rebecca Brown of the Takoma Park Maryland Library, attended the workshop, "If You Build It, Will They Come? Expert Tips for Developing and Marketing Spanish-Language Collections" at the Rockville Library on Monday, May 5. (*Library*)

9. **Online Registration for Library Programs:** Patrons can now register for library programs online, thanks to new software called Engaged Patrons and some work by librarian Rebecca Brown to make the program work specifically for our library. To register for upcoming programs, patrons can go to [www.takomapark.info/library](http://www.takomapark.info/library), then click on the word "events," which is in green print just below the City of Takoma Park logo. Patrons then fill in the requested info to register, and are even sent an email reminder just a few days before the program. Of course, patrons can still register in person or by telephone: 301-891-7259. (*Library*)

10. **Graphic Novel Primer/Date Change:** Originally scheduled for Tuesday, May 13, the library's Graphic Novel Primer now will take place a week later on Tuesday May 20 at 7:30 p.m. At the program, library assistant Dave Burbank, a graphic novel expert, and children's/teen librarian Karen MacPherson, will offer an introduction to graphic novels, illustrating their talk with examples of graphic novels for kids, teens and adults. At the program, Dave and Karen will give a brief overview of the history of graphic novels, discuss why they are so popular with children and teens, and show how they can inspire an interest in reading among reluctant readers as well as help develop key literacy skills among all kinds of readers. Participants will take home a reading list of suggested graphic novels for various ages. Although this program is particularly aimed at parents and other interested adults, school-aged kids also are welcome to attend. Please register by going to [www.takomapark.info/library](http://www.takomapark.info/library) -- click on the word "events," in green print just under the logo-- or just call us at 301-891-7259. (*Library*)

11. **Friends of the Takoma Park Maryland Library Reading Group:** The Friends of the Takoma Park Maryland Library Reading Group will meet on Wednesday, May 14, at 7:30 p.m. in the Takoma Park Community Center. The group will discuss "Last Orders," a novel by Graham Swift. Copies of the book are available at the library for check-out, thanks to the Friends. All are welcome to attend the book discussion. (*Library*)

12. **Book Sale:** On Saturday May 17, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., the Friends of the Takoma Park Maryland Library will hold their twice-yearly - and very popular - book sale on the Library lawn. Come browse among thousands of books, as well as lots of CDs and cassettes. There's something from every age, from infant through adult, all at

bargain prices. All proceeds go to the Library in the form of gifts that benefit public services. Any questions, just call us at 301-891-7259. *(Library)*

**13. APA Conference:** Deputy City Manager Suzanne Ludlow and Associate Planner David Suls attended the annual conference of the American Planning Association from April 26 through May 1. Topics covered included many aspects of environmental sustainable design, aging in place, integrating health and food systems into the planning process, mass transit, innovative community participation techniques, and impacts of immigration. Much of the cutting-edge information and best practices presented in the workshops can be directly applied to current Takoma Park initiatives and processes. *(Deputy City Manager)*

**14. Officers in Meetings:**

- On May 3 and 4, CSAFE staff promoted public safety at the Unity Day Festival at the Long Branch Community Center and at Langley Park Day at the Langley Park Community Center, respectively.
- On May 5, PIO Cathy Plevy attended a planning committee meeting in Takoma Park with members from Montgomery County Department of Liquor Control, Montgomery County Public Schools Safe and Drug-Free Schools, and Maryland International Corridor CSAFE to discuss the upcoming Community Forum on Underage Drinking.
- On May 7, Det. Richard Cannatella and Crime Analyst Kyleen Luy attended the HEAT team meeting facilitated by CSAFE. *(Police)*

**15. Officers in Training:**

- On May 5, Capt. Coursey attended a Hurricane Exercise Workshop in Montgomery County. *(Police)*

**16. Traffic Enforcement:** Officers conducted at least 88 traffic stops, which resulted in citations, five (5) vehicle impounds and two (2) arrests.

***During the week of April 30 - May 6, 2008, the following details were completed:***

April 30, 2008

- 4th Avenue and Poplar Avenue (no right turn) - conducted a one (1) hour detail and issued seven (7) warnings.

May 1, 2008

- Ethan Allen Avenue and Jackson Avenue (no right turn) - conducted a one (1) hour detail and issued one (1) warning.
- 1200 block of Kirklynn Avenue (seat belt enforcement) - conducted a four (4) hour detail and issued seven (7) warnings and seventeen (17) state citations.
- Kirklynn Avenue and New Hampshire Avenue (seat belt enforcement) - conducted a four and a half (4 ½) detail and issued twenty-five (25) state citations.
- Flower Avenue and Houston Avenue (stop sign) - conducted a one and a half (1 ½) hour detail and issued five (5) warnings.
- Elm Avenue and Lincoln Avenue (traffic circle) - conducted a half (1/2) hour detail and no citations or warnings were issued.

May 2, 2008

- Ethan Allen Avenue and Jackson Avenue (no right turn) - conducted a one (1) hour detail and issued one (1) warning.

- Flower Avenue and Houston Avenue (stop sign) - conducted a one (1) hour detail and issued one (1) warning and one (1) state citation.
- 7100 block of New Hampshire Avenue (speeding) - conducted a three and a half (3 ½) hour detail and issued fourteen (14) warnings, fourteen (14) state citations and three (3) other state citations.
- New Hampshire Avenue and Larch Avenue (speeding) - conducted a three (3) hour detail and issued fifteen (15) warnings.
- Larch Avenue and New Hampshire Avenue (speeding) - conducted a three and a half (3 ½) hour detail and issued fifteen (15) warnings.

#### May 3, 2008

- 7600 block of Flower Avenue (speeding) - conducted a half (1/2) hour detail and no citations or warnings were issued.
- Takoma Avenue and Fenton Street (seat belt enforcement) - conducted a half (1/2) hour detail and no citations or warnings were issued.
- Philadelphia Avenue and Holly Avenue (seat belt enforcement) - conducted a half (1/2) hour detail and issued three (3) state citations.
- 7300 block of New Hampshire Avenue (speeding) - conducted a one (1) hour detail and issued four (4) warnings and four (4) state citations.
- Ethan Allen Avenue and Jackson Avenue (seat belt enforcement) - conducted a one and a half (1 ½) hour detail and issued one (1) warning and five (5) state citations.

#### May 5, 2008

- Takoma Avenue and Fenton Street (stop sign) - conducted a half (1/2) hour detail and issued two (2) warnings.
- New Hampshire Avenue and Larch Avenue (speeding) - conducted a one (1) hour detail and issued one (1) warning and one (1) state citation.
- Houston Avenue and Flower Avenue (seat belt enforcement) - conducted a one (1) hour detail and issued one (1) warning and one (1) state citation.
- New Hampshire Avenue and Larch Avenue (speeding) - conducted a one (1) hour detail and issued three (3) warnings and two (2) state citations.
- Houston Avenue and Flower Avenue (seat belt enforcement) - conducted a one (1) hour detail and issued two (2) warnings.
- 4th Avenue and Poplar Avenue (no right turn) - conducted a one and a half (1 ½) hour detail and issued seven (7) warnings and one (1) state citation.
- Philadelphia Avenue and Holly Avenue (seat belt enforcement) - conducted a half (1/2) hour detail and issued one (1) state citation.
- New Hampshire Avenue and Kirklynn Avenue (seat belt enforcement) - conducted a one (1) hour detail and issued three (3) warnings and nine (9) state citations.
- 4th Avenue and Poplar Avenue (no right turn) - conducted a half (1/2) hour detail and issued two (2) warnings.

#### May 6, 2008

- Ethan Allen Avenue and Jackson Avenue (seat belt enforcement) - conducted a one (1) hour detail and issued one (1) warning.
  - Ethan Allen Avenue and Jackson Avenue (seat belt enforcement) - conducted a half (1/2) hour detail and no citations or warnings were issued.
- (Police)